

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for pre-selecting disks coupled to a storage
2 system, the method comprising the steps of:
3 obtaining, by a ~~processor~~process running within the storage system, a set of sys-
4 tem characteristics;
5 obtaining, by said ~~processor~~process, a plurality of disk characteristics;
6 comparing, by said ~~processor~~process, the system characteristics with the disk
7 characteristics;
8 selecting, by said ~~processor~~process, disks whose disk characteristics match the
9 system characteristics; and
10 ~~and~~ displaying the selected disks in a GUI; and not displaying non-selected disks.

1 2. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of displaying the
2 selected disks to a user.

1 3. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 1 wherein the system characteristics comprise
2 characteristics of a volume of the storage system.

1 4. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 3 wherein the step of obtaining system charac-
2 teristics further comprises the steps of:
3 retrieving the volume characteristics from a volume table, the volume table cre-
4 ated and maintained by a file system layer of an operating system executing on the stor-
5 age system.

1 5. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 1 wherein the system characteristics are obtained
2 from a registry of the storage system.

1 6. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 5 wherein the registry further comprises:
2 an application program interface, the application program interface permitting
3 programs to interface with the registry.

1 7. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 1 wherein the pre-selection occurs when a menu
2 is displayed to a user.

1 8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A graphical user interface (GUI) for managing a file
2 server, the GUI comprising:
3 a disk selector menu for identifying disks that may serve as candidates for a set of
4 operations, said disk selector menu prepared by a ~~processor~~process running within the
5 storage system and said disks identified by said ~~processor~~process, the set of operations
6 including addition of disks to a volume and creation of a volume, the disk selector menu
7 only displaying disks which are valid for the operation.

1 9. (ORIGINAL) The graphical user interface of Claim 8 wherein the disk selector menu
2 is a component of a web page and displayed in a web browser.

1 10. (ORIGINAL) The graphical user interface of Claim 8 wherein the disk selector
2 menu only displays disks which are valid for a specific volume of the network storage.

1 11. (ORIGINAL) A computer-readable medium operating on a storage system, the
2 computer-readable medium including program instructions for performing the steps of:
3 obtaining system characteristics;
4 obtaining a plurality of disk characteristics;
5 comparing the disk characteristics to the system characteristics;
6 selecting disks whose disk characteristics match the system characteristics; and
7 displaying a list of the selected disks that may be added to the disks active in the
8 storage system.

1 12. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11 wherein the computer-
2 readable medium is a Java servlet.

1 13. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11 wherein the system char-
2 acteristics further comprise:
3 a set of volume characteristics.

1 14. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11 further programmed to
2 perform the step of displaying the selected disks to the user, said list including only se-
3 lected disks from a spare pool of disks and no others.

1 15. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11 further programmed to
2 perform the step of displaying the selected disks to the user in a disk selector menu.

1 16. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11 wherein the disk selector
2 menu is a component of a web page and displayed in a web browser.

1 17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Electromagnetic signals propagating over a com-
2 puter network, the electromagnetic signals carrying information for practicing the method
3 of claim 1.

1 18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of pre-selecting disks to be displayed in a
2 menu, the pre-selecting occurring before the menu is displayed, the method comprising
3 the steps of:

4 obtaining, by a process running within the storage system~~processor~~, a set of sys-
5 tem characteristics;

6 obtaining, by said ~~processor~~ process, a set of spare disk characteristics;

7 comparing, by said ~~processor~~ process, the system characteristics to the spare disk
8 characteristics; and,
9 pre-selecting, by said ~~processor~~ process, a plurality of spare disks whose charac-
10 teristics match the system characteristics and displaying in the menu at least one pre-
11 selected disk.

1 19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of pre-selecting disks to be added to a vol-
2 ume of a storage system, the method comprising the steps of:

3 obtaining, by a ~~processor~~ process running within the storage system, a set of vol-
4 ume characteristics by calling an application program interface of a registry;

5 obtaining, by said ~~processor~~ process, a set of spare disk characteristics by calling
6 the application program interface of the registry; and

7 pre-selecting, by said ~~processor~~ process, a set of disks based upon the spare disk
8 characteristics matching the set of volume characteristics.

1 20. (NEW) A method for pre-selecting disks coupled to a storage system, the method
2 comprising the steps of:

3 obtaining a set of system characteristics;

4 obtaining a plurality of disk characteristics;

5 comparing the system characteristics with the disk characteristics;

6 selecting, disks whose disk characteristics match the system characteristics; and

7 displaying the selected disks in a GUI and not displaying non-selected disks.

1 21. (NEW) A system for pre-selecting disks coupled to a storage system, the system
2 comprising:

3 means for obtaining a set of system characteristics;

4 means for obtaining a plurality of disk characteristics;
5 means for comparing the system characteristics with the disk characteristics;
6 means for selecting, disks whose disk characteristics match the system character-
7 istics; and
8 means for displaying the selected disks in a GUI and not displaying non-selected
9 disks.

1 22. (NEW) A method for pre-selecting disks coupled to a storage system, the method
2 comprising the steps of:
3 requesting, by a process running within the storage system, a set of volume char-
4 acteristics;
5 obtaining, by a registry, the volume characteristics from a volume table;
6 returning, via an interface, the volume characteristics to the process;
7 requesting, by the process, a plurality of disk characteristics;
8 obtaining, by the registry, the plurality of disk characteristics from a disk table;
9 returning, via the interface, the plurality of disk characteristics to the process;
10 comparing, by the process, the volume characteristics with the disk characteris-
11 tics;
12 displaying for user selection only disks whose disk characteristics and are com-
13 patible with the volume characteristics.

1 23. (NEW) A system for pre-selecting disks coupled to a storage system, the system
2 comprising:

3 means for requesting, by a process running within the storage system, a set of
4 volume characteristics;

5 means for obtaining, by a registry, the volume characteristics from a volume ta-
6 ble;

7 means for returning, via an interface, the volume characteristics to the process;

8 means for requesting, by the process, a plurality of disk characteristics;

9 means for obtaining, by the registry, the plurality of disk characteristics from a
10 disk table;

11 means for returning, via the interface, the plurality of disk characteristics to the
12 process;

13 means for comparing, by the process, the volume characteristics with the disk
14 characteristics;

15 means for displaying for user selection only disks whose disk characteristics and
16 are compatible with the volume characteristics.